Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

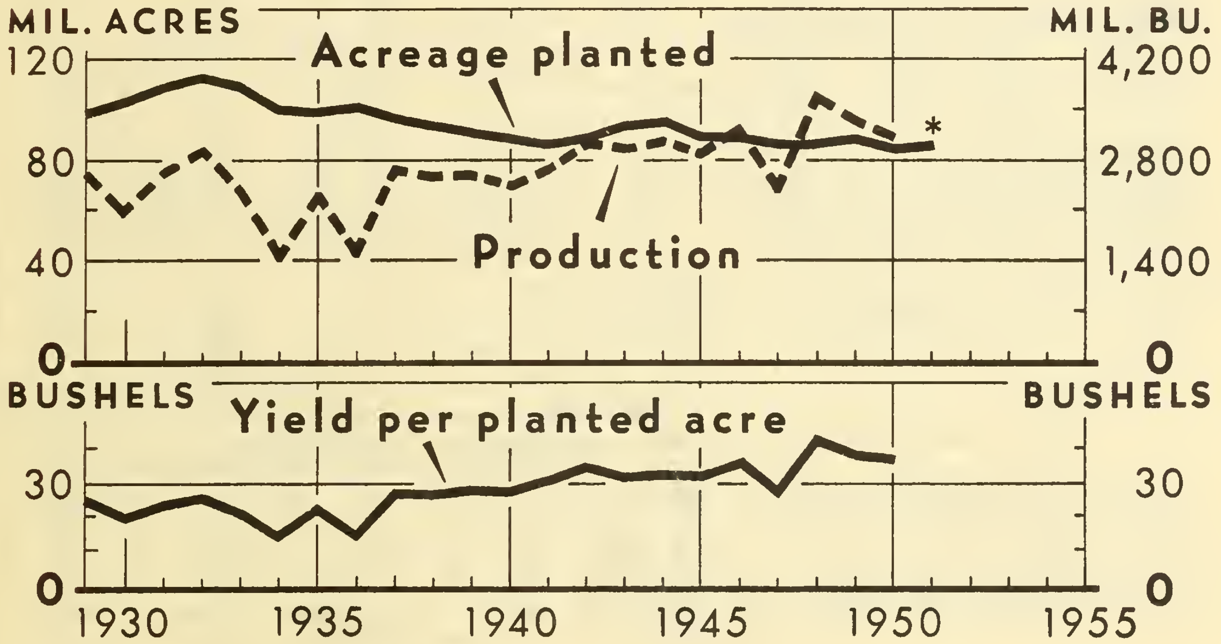
32
S
2

FOR RELEASE
APR. 14, P. M.

THE Feed SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FDS-124 BAE MARCH 1951



CORN ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION TRENDS

*PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS AS OF MARCH 1

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 48079-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Over the past 20 years there has been a downward trend in corn acreage in the United States, while production has been increasing, reflecting the pronounced upward trend in yields per acre. In early March farmers indicated their intentions to plant only about 2 percent more corn than in 1950 and to plant smaller acreages of other feed grain. With 1945-49 average yields by states on the 1951 prospective acreages, production of corn and other feed grains would be smaller than in 1950, although larger than in prewar years. These early indications point to smaller total feed supplies and a tighter corn supply situation in 1951-52 than in the current season.

Table 1.- Statistical Summary

PRICES

Item	Unit	1949		1950		1951		
		Feb.	Mar.	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
		Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Grains and Hay								
Corn, No. 3 Yellow, Chicago	Bushel	127.1	133.7	129.7	133.7	173.8	181.8	177.0
Price received by farmers, U. S.	Bushel	112.0	118.0	116.0	119.0	154.0	160.0	160.0
Oats, No. 2 White, Chicago	Bushel	77.2	76.1	77.6	79.9	99.5	104.8	100.2
No. 2 White, Minneapolis	Bushel	71.7	71.2	74.4	76.5	93.0	98.6	94.6
Price received by farmers, U. S.	Bushel	68.9	70.0	70.6	72.3	88.2	91.9	90.9
Barley, No. 3, Minneapolis	Bushel	124.2	120.0	148.4	151.8	161.7	167.3	162.8
Price received by farmers, U. S.	Bushel	104.0	106.0	109.0	110.0	127.0	133.0	134.0
Grain sorghums, price received by farmers, U. S.	100 pounds	207.0	217.0	188.0	193.0	210.0	218.0	212.0
Wheat, No. 2 Hard Winter, Kansas City	Bushel	219.6	224.1	222.4	227.2	240.2	247.6	240.1
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Hay, No. 1 Alfalfa, baled, Kansas City	Ton	30.00	30.00	27.00	27.00	31.25	33.20	30.50
Price received by farmers, baled, U. S.	Ton	25.50	25.00	21.50	21.20	22.60	23.20	23.10
Byproduct Feeds (bagged)								
Standard bran, Minneapolis	Ton	44.50	52.10	40.55	45.75	50.00	50.75	52.90
Buffalo	Ton	51.10	57.90	47.60	51.10	56.40	58.75	58.60
Price paid by farmers, U. S.	100 pounds	3.02	3.15	2.80	2.86	3.24	3.25	3.31
Standard middlings, Minneapolis	Ton	43.50	51.10	40.70	46.75	50.10	51.75	55.50
Buffalo	Ton	50.50	56.70	46.90	52.00	56.40	59.00	59.25
Price paid by farmers,. U. S.	100 pounds	3.12	3.25	2.91	3.00	3.38	3.39	3.47
Cottonseed meal, 41 percent protein, Memphis	Ton	58.50	56.75	56.75	60.40	80.35	81.75	81.25
Linseed meal, 36 percent protein, Minneapolis [1]	Ton	70.50	64.90	68.50	70.00	69.60	69.60	69.50
28 percent protein, San Francisco	Ton	67.50	67.95	65.25	67.25	74.00	81.65	81.65
Soybean meal, 44 percent protein, Chicago [2]	Ton	65.80	67.40	65.05	69.65	77.20	82.55	79.65
Price paid by farmers, U. S.	100 pounds	4.14	4.09	4.02	4.11	4.51	4.54	4.75
Peanut meal, 45 percent protein, S. E. milling points	Ton	67.50	62.50	59.75	63.80	69.80	72.10	67.50
White hominy feed, Chicago	Ton	42.95	42.95	45.80	49.75	61.90	61.80	61.20
Gluten feed, 23 percent protein, Chicago	Ton	53.75	52.25	52.50	53.00	55.00	55.00	53.50
Tankage digester, 60 percent protein, Chicago	Ton	117.90	109.00	107.10	113.60	124.50	126.50	127.10
Meat scraps, 50 percent protein, Chicago	Ton	109.00	108.45	100.80	113.90	119.55	120.55	120.10
Fish meal, 67 percent protein, San Francisco	Ton	188.00	198.30	162.50	150.35	144.70	150.75	150.75
Alfalfa meal, No. 1 fine, Kansas City	Ton	39.65	39.20	37.10	33.50	44.80	44.00	44.00
Mixed dairy feed, 16 percent protein, price paid by farmers, U. S.	100 pounds	3.62	3.59	3.38	3.41	3.97	4.03	4.07
Laying mash, price paid by farmers, U. S.	100 pounds	4.45	4.45	4.31	4.34	4.82	4.84	4.92
Scratch feed, price paid by farmers, U. S.	100 pounds	3.93	3.98	3.71	3.77	4.29	4.36	4.50
INDEX NUMBERS OF PRICES								
		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Feed grains, price received by farmers, U. S.	1910-14=100	172	179	178	182	229	238	238
Ten principal high-protein feeds, terminal markets	1935-39=100	231	227	219	226	260	267	264
Four oilseed meals	1935-39=100	210	205	204	212	260	268	265
Tankage, meat scraps, and fish meal	1935-39=100	309	309	275	277	285	292	292
Gluten feed, brewers' dried grains, and distillers' dried grains	1935-39=100	228	220	220	223	227	227	221
Feed, price paid by farmers, U. S.	1910-14=100	211	211	199	201	230	233	235
LIVESTOCK-FEED PRICE RATIOS [3]								
(March average)								
Hog-corn, Chicago [4] 1930-49= 13.0	Bushel	15.6	15.3	13.0	12.3	12.0	12.5	12.4
Hog-corn, U. S. farm price [5] 1930-49= 13.2	Bushel	17.2	16.9	14.3	13.5	13.0	13.8	13.2
Beef-steer-corn, Chicago [5] 1930-49= 15.0	Bushel	17.5	18.1	19.7	19.4	19.6	19.2	20.1
Butterfat-feed, U. S. 1930-49= 23.7	Pound	23.7	23.1	24.4	23.8	22.6	22.0	21.7
Milk-feed, U. S. 1930-49= 1.26	Pound	1.34	1.24	1.33	1.27	1.35	1.32	1.27
Egg-feed, U. S. 1940-49= 10.8	Pound	12.2	11.9	8.8	9.3	11.0	10.5	10.9

Prices compiled from Chicago Journal of Commerce, Minneapolis Daily Market Record, Kansas City Grain Market Review, and reports of the Grain Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

[1] 36 percent in 1951, other months shown 34 percent.

[2] 44 percent in 1951, other months shown 41 percent.

[3] Units of corn or other concentrate ration equal in value to 100 pounds of hog or beef-steer, one pound of butterfat or milk, or one dozen eggs.

[4] Based on packer and shipper purchases of barrows and gilts, and No. 3 Yellow corn. The ratios for the years 1930-37 in the average are based on all purchases of hogs, and No. 3 Yellow corn.

[5] Based on prices of beef-steers sold out of first hands for slaughter, and No. 3 Yellow corn.

THE FEED SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, April 5, 1951

SUMMARY

Indications in early March point to a moderately smaller supply of feed grains in 1951-52 than the big supplies of the past two years. On the other hand, feed requirements are increasing and demand is expected to continue strong. The prospective corn acreage of 85.7 million acres for 1951 is only 1.6 percent larger than the small acreage in 1950. Farmers in the Corn Belt area indicated their intentions to plant about 3.2 million acres (6 percent) more corn than in 1950, but this is to a considerable extent offset by a prospective reduction of nearly 2 million acres in the South. Prospective acreages of other feed grains for 1951 are smaller than those seeded last year--oats by 5 percent, barley 14 percent, and all sorghums 24 percent. These early indications are subject to changes in farmers' plans as well as to the influence of weather at planting time.

If farmers should carry out these early intentions, and if yields by States should be about the same as the 1945-49 average, the total production of feed grains would be about 118 million tons, 6 percent smaller than in 1950. Although this level of production would be nearly a fifth larger than in the period just before World War II, it would fall short of current feed grain requirements, estimated at about 132 million tons for 1950-51. Production at this level would mean a further reduction in carry-over stocks of feed grains, which are expected to total around 24 million tons at the end of the 1950-51 marketing year, and probably would also require some reduction in 1951-52 from the present heavy rate of livestock feeding. While weather will be the major factor determining feed supplies for 1951-52, these early indications point to nearly 10 percent less feed concentrates per animal unit in 1951-52 than in 1950-51, which, with the strong demand in prospect, would result in a much tighter feed supply situation than in the two preceding years. These prospects focus attention on the need for conserving feed supplies and for increasing 1951 plantings and production of corn and other feed grains wherever feasible. To this end the Department is urging conservation of feed supplies and is taking aggressive action to encourage farmers to increase feed grain production, especially corn.

The prospective hay acreage is about the same as the acreage harvested in 1950. With average weather this year, hay supplies in 1951-52 would again be adequate for livestock on farms, although they would be a little smaller per animal unit than during the past 3 or 4 years.

Demand for feed is currently much stronger than a year ago. Higher prices for livestock and livestock products have encouraged heavy feeding, and increased numbers of livestock on farms have also contributed to the current strong demand for feed. In March feed grain prices averaged nearly a third higher than a year ago, with prices of all the feed grains above Government price supports. They were, however, still below parity, the legal minimum at which price ceilings can be imposed on feed grains. In March the average price received for corn was 8 percent below, oats 6 percent below, barley 11 percent below, and sorghum grains 28 percent below their respective parities.

Demand for feed is expected to continue strong in the 1951-52 feeding year. Feed grain prices will probably continue above the price support level into 1951-52, unless the 1951 growing season should be unusually favorable. With the strong demand for feed in prospect during the coming year, production prospects for 1951 feed crops will have an important influence on the level of feed grain prices. Prospects for big crops would delay the time at which prices would reach the legal minimum levels at which ceilings on prices could be imposed under the present law.

Market receipts of corn have been unusually heavy so far during the 1950-51 marketing year, reflecting higher corn prices and increased demand for corn for domestic processing and export. Substantial quantities of corn have been withdrawn from loan stocks and Government holdings. Stocks of corn at terminal markets have increased to the highest level in recent years. At the same time much less corn and other feed grains are going under price support, indicating that stocks of feed grains held under price support this summer and fall will be much smaller than a year ago.

FEED PROSPECTS FOR 1951-52

Slightly Larger Corn Acreage Planned for 1951; Smaller Acreage of Other Feed Grains in Prospect

Reports from farmers in early March indicated their plans to reduce the total feed grain acreage, including sorghum for all purposes, this year by about 7 million acres, or 4 percent below the acreage planted in 1950. The prospective corn acreage of 85.7 million acres is only 1.6 percent larger than the small acreage in 1950. A prospective increase of 3.2 million acres in the North Central region is to a considerable extent offset by an indicated reduction of nearly 2 million acres in the South. Smaller acreages of other feed grains are in prospect. These early indications are subject to changes in farmers' plans, as well as to the influence of weather after March 1. The national acreage and production guides for feed grains were announced in February, but full information generally had not reached farmers by March 1 as to their application to counties and individual farms. Since then the Department has launched an extensive campaign urging farmers to increase feed grain production, especially corn.

Based on these indications the total acreage planted to corn, oats, barley, and sorghums in 1951 would be 154 million acres. With the exception of 1947 this would be the smallest acreage in the 22 years that plantings have been reported, and about 6 percent below the 1940-49 average. The removal of acreage allotments on such important crops as wheat, corn, and cotton this year appears to be a major factor responsible for the prospective shifts in feed grain acreages. Smaller acreages of oats, barley, and sorghums are expected in areas where larger acreages of wheat, corn, and other crops are being planted or are in prospect.

Table 2.- Acreages of feed grains, hay, and related crops, 1940-49 average and 1950, prospective plantings for 1951, and acreage guides

Crop	Average 1940-49	1950	Prospective 1951 1/	1951 as a percentage of average	1951 as a percentage of 1950	1951 acreage guides 2/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	Percent	1,000 acres
Corn	89,481	84,370	85,694	95.8	101.6	90,002
Oats	43,510	46,642	44,191	101.6	94.7	43,727
Barley	14,281	13,235	11,413	79.9	86.2	13,242
Sorghums 3/	15,857	16,486	4/12,439	78.4	75.5	4/
Wheat	68,212	71,396	5/77,953	114.3	109.2	5/77,800
Soybeans for beans 6/	9,348	13,291	12,100	120.4	91.0	13,013
Flaxseed	4,158	4,064	3,921	94.3	96.5	4,000
Peanuts 7/	2,923	2,315	2,100	71.8	90.7	---
Sugar beets	828	1,013	887	107.1	87.6	---
All hay 8/	74,845	75,741	75,656	101.1	99.9	---

1/ Based on reports of farmers' intentions about March 1.
2/ Total of the acreage guides by States.
3/ Excluding sirup. Prospective acreage for 1951 less 1950 acreage harvested for sirup.
4/ With the normal percentage harvested for grain, 6.7 million acres would be harvested for grain compared with the Department's guide of 7,295,000 acres.
5/ Winter wheat seeded (56,103,000 acres) plus the prospective acreage (21,850,000 acres) or guide (21.697,000 acres) for spring wheat.
6/ Harvested acreage. Prospective acreage for 1951 based on the usual relationship between the total acreage and the acreage harvested for beans.
7/ Picked and threshed. Prospective acreage for 1951 based on the usual relationship of acreage planted alone to acreages for picking and threshing by States.
8/ Acreage harvested.

The March 1 prospective plantings of feed grains are generally below the Department's guides. The Department's guide called for 90 million acres of corn, considered necessary in view of increasing demand for corn and the need for an adequate stockpile. March 1 intentions were more than 4 million acres short of this guide. The prospective barley acreage is nearly 2 million acres or 14 percent below the guide, while the indicated acreage for oats is about 1 percent above. The Department's guide for sorghums to be harvested as grain is 7,295,000 acres. On the basis of the usual relationship between the total sorghum acreage and that harvested for grain, the acreage for grain this year would be about 6.7 million acres, also below the 1951 guide.

Table 3.- Feed grains: Planted acreages by regions and specified States, and 1951 prospective plantings

State and region	Corn 1/					Oats			Barley		
	Average 1940-49	1948	1949	1950	Prospective 1951 2/	Average 1940-49	1950	Prospective 1951 2/	Average 1940-49	1950	Prospective 1951 2/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
N. Atl.	2,410	2,455	2,445	2,465	2,470	1,907	1,942	2,011	259	264	242
Ohio	3,474	3,701	3,627	3,384	3,553	1,184	1,181	1,275	31	27	23
Indiana	4,382	4,756	4,818	4,345	4,562	1,404	1,457	1,457	52	27	32
Illinois	8,534	9,298	9,280	8,300	8,964	3,584	3,959	3,682	82	50	40
Michigan	1,690	1,729	1,798	1,690	1,741	1,435	1,501	1,591	161	116	114
Wisconsin	2,522	2,570	2,621	2,595	2,647	2,754	3,000	3,000	306	217	217
E. N. Cent.	20,602	22,054	22,144	20,314	21,467	10,361	11,098	11,005	632	437	426
Minnesota	5,280	5,198	5,682	5,152	5,513	4,751	5,168	5,065	1,213	1,283	1,309
Iowa	10,545	11,213	11,493	9,905	10,796	5,573	6,555	6,227	106	60	37
Missouri	4,401	4,486	4,396	4,200	4,410	2,130	2,016	1,895	148	100	90
North Dakota	1,196	1,147	1,250	1,350	1,256	2,323	2,225	2,047	2,381	2,148	2,234
South Dakota	3,745	3,728	4,101	3,855	4,125	2,883	3,474	3,231	1,780	1,256	1,042
Nebraska	7,694	7,048	7,438	6,843	7,048	2,304	2,862	2,490	1,182	411	279
Kansas	3,003	2,498	2,598	2,676	2,890	1,623	1,520	1,216	904	636	382
W. N. Cent.	35,864	35,318	36,958	33,981	36,038	21,587	23,820	22,171	7,714	5,894	5,373
S. Atl.	10,261	9,701	9,743	9,925	9,849	2,369	2,538	2,617	260	301	273
S. Cent.	18,780	16,065	15,559	16,401	14,651	4,880	4,656	4,024	921	691	449
Western	1,564	1,235	1,343	1,284	1,219	2,406	2,588	2,363	4,495	5,648	4,650
Total U.S.	89,481	86,828	88,192	84,370	85,694	43,510	46,642	44,191	14,281	13,235	11,413

1/ For all purposes.

2/ Based on reports of farmers' intentions about March 1.

The increase in the prospective acreage of corn in 1951 over 1950 is confined largely to the commercial corn areas, where most of the reduction in acreage occurred in 1950. For the entire North Central region, an increase of 3.2 million acres or 6 percent over last year's small acreage is in prospect. In most of the important corn-producing States of the Midwest, the prospective corn acreage for 1951 is a little below the level reached in 1949, but slightly above the 1940-49 average. In the southern States smaller corn acreages are in prospect, continuing the downward trend in corn acreage that has been underway in the south over the past several years. In the South Central region the prospective corn acreage issl.8 million acres smaller than in 1950 and 4.1 million acres below the 1940-49 average. In the South Atlantic region the prospective acreage is slightly smaller than in 1950 and 4 percent below average. The indicated acreage for the North Atlantic region is about the same as in 1950 and not greatly different from the average of the past 10 years. In the Western States, where corn is a minor crop, a 5 percent reduction in corn acreage is in prospect.

On March 1 farmers indicated their intentions to reduce acreages of oats, barley, and sorghums from the acreage planted in 1950. The prospective decreases in these grains are principally in the Great Plains area, the South Central region, and the Western Corn Belt, where larger acreages of wheat, corn, and other crops are in prospect. The 44.2 million acres of oats in prospect for 1951 is 5 percent smaller than last year's acreage, although a little above the 1940-49 average. The prospective barley acreage totals 11.4 million acres, a decrease of about 14 percent from the 1950 acreage, and, with the exception of 1949, the smallest in over 20 years. Farmers indicated their intentions to plant about 12.5 million acres of sorghum, or about one-fourth less than in 1950. Smaller acreages were indicated in nearly all areas of the country. In Texas, the leading sorghum State, where the crop is grown largely for grain, about one-third less acreage is in prospect than was planted last year.

Early Indications Point to a Smaller Feed Concentrate Supply in 1951-52

Indications in March this year point to a smaller supply of feed concentrates in 1951-52 than the big supplies of the past two years. With 1945-49 average yields by States on the March 1 prospective acreages of feed grains, about 118 million tons of feed grains would be produced, 6 percent below the 1950 production. Although this would be 18 percent larger than in 1937-41, it would be about 10 percent short of our 1950-51 requirements, estimated at around 132 million tons.

The total carry-over of feed grains into 1951-52 probably will be around 6 or 7 million tons smaller than the record carry-over of 31.2 million tons in 1950. This would mean a total feed grain supply of only about 142 million tons, about 14 or 15 million tons smaller than the big supplies of the past two years. If farmers carry out their March 1 planting intentions, a very favorable growing season, similar to that of 1948, would be required to produce a tonnage of feed grains large enough to provide for our total domestic and export requirements, and to maintain our feed grain supply at the 1950-51 level. If yields on the 1951 intended acreages of feed grains were equal to the United States average for 1948 feed grain production would total about 135 million tons. Yields about the same as in 1949 or 1950 would produce about 122 or 123 million tons. From the above comparisons it appears likely that the 1951 production of feed grains will fall short of our current level of requirements. This would result in some further reduction in feed grain reserves in 1951-52, and would require more conservative feeding of livestock. An unfavorable growing season, such as occurred in 1947, would give a production about one-fourth less than our requirements, resulting in a complete depletion of our reserves and a curtailment of livestock production.

Table 4. Feed concentrate supplies, total and per animal unit, United States, average 1937-41, annual 1942-51

Season beginning	Feed grains: Carry-over 1/	Feed grains: Production 2/	Feed grains: Total supply	Other feed concentrates 3/	Total supply feed concentrates	Grain consuming animal units 4/	Supply per animal unit
	Mil. ton	Mil. ton	Mil. ton	Mil. ton	Mil. ton	Millions	Ton.
Average 1937-41	16.9	99.3	116.2	19.9	136.1	153.1	.89
1942	18.5	120.8	139.3	33.1	172.4	192.4	.90
1943	17.8	112.1	129.9	34.6	164.5	193.2	.85
1944	11.6	116.7	128.3	29.8	158.1	173.7	.91
1945	14.9	114.4	129.3	25.9	155.2	167.8	.92
1946	10.9	124.3	135.2	23.7	158.9	161.4	.98
1947	13.9	95.4	109.3	25.1	134.4	155.9	.86
1948	7.9	138.3	146.2	24.3	170.5	162.9	1.05
1949	30.8	125.9	156.7	26.0	182.7	170.1	1.07
1950 5/	31.2	125.0	156.2	27.0	183.2	174.0	1.05
1951 6/	24.0	7/117.5	141.5	28.5	170.0	177	.96

1/ Stocks of corn on October 1, oats and barley on July 1, and, 1947 to date, sorghum grains on October 1.
2/ Corn for all purposes, oats, barley, and sorghum grain.
3/ Imported feed grains and wheat, rye, and byproduct feeds fed to livestock.
4/ Grain-consuming animal units fed during October-September feeding season.
5/ Preliminary.
6/ Tentative estimates based on indications in March.
7/ Based on acreage intentions on March 1 and 1945-49 average yields by States.

With yields per acre in 1951 the same as the 1945-49 average by States, the corn production on the prospective acreage would total about 3,050 million bushels. This would be 81 million bushels smaller than the 1950 crop, and much smaller than the big crops of 1948 and 1949. Because of the upward trend in corn yields over the past 20 years, yield expectations for 1951 may be a little higher, with average weather, than the 1945-49 averages. Should yield per planted acre by States turn out the same as in 1950, total corn production would be a little over 3.2 billion bushels, reflecting both the increase in prospective acreage and a shift in acreage from the Southern States to the Corn Belt, where yields are higher. Based on present indications, the corn carry-over next October 1 will be around 550 to 600 million bushels. If a 1951 corn crop of about 3.0 to 3.2 billion bushels is realized, this would give a total corn supply of around 3.6 to 3.8 billion bushels, or around one-tenth smaller than in the two preceding years. Corn requirements for 1950-51 are estimated at about 3.4 billion bushels. These early indications point to a considerably tighter corn supply situation next year than for the current season, and a further reduction in the carry-over of corn in 1951-52.

With a moderately smaller supply of feed grains in 1951-52, as indicated above, it is likely that there would be some increase in feeding of domestic wheat as well as larger imports of ~~wheat,~~ oats, and barley. There are substantial quantities of low quality wheat in Canada from the 1950 crop which could move to this country this summer and fall. Byproduct feed production will continue at a high level. While increased supplies of these other feeds may partly offset the prospective smaller supply of feed grains, the supply of feed concentrates under the above assumptions probably would total around 170 million tons, about 7 percent below the big supplies in 1949 and 1950. A supply of this size would be well above the prewar average and also larger than in most years prior to 1948, but it would mean nearly 10 percent less feed per animal unit than in the period 1948-50.

Production of byproduct feeds probably will continue large in 1951-52. Another large output of oilseed cake and meal is in prospect, if farmers carry out their planting intentions and yields are average or above. The prospective 1950 acreage of soybeans for harvest as beans is 12.1 million acres, which is a little smaller than last year, but otherwise the largest of record. If this acreage is realized and 1945-49 yields are attained, by States, the 1951 production of beans would be about 233 million bushels. This would be nearly 20 percent less than the 1950 record production, but the second highest on record. The total supply of flaxseed probably will be smaller than in 1950-51, since a small reduction in flaxseed acreage is in prospect, and the carry-over next July 1 will be smaller. The quantity crushed may be nearly as large as in 1950-51, however, if stocks are reduced to a low level by the close of the 1951-52 season. Planting intentions are not reported for cotton, but the national acreage guide is about 50 percent above the acreage planted in 1950. The 1951-52 production of oilseed cake and meal, on the basis of these early indications, is expected to be well above the average of recent years, and it may be close to the record production of over 8 million tons expected for the current feeding season.

The strong demand for food and industrial products from grains will tend to hold the rate of grain milling at a high level in 1951-52, and will result in a continuation of a large production of grain mill products. The total supply of all byproduct feeds will probably continue near the high level of around 20 to 21 million tons in recent years.

Hay Acreage Maintained

The total acreage of all hay for harvest in 1951 will be about the same as the acreage harvested in 1950, and a little above the 1940-49 average, if farmers carry out their March 1 intentions. In most States farmers plan to maintain their hay acreage close to the 1950 level. Moderate increases are in prospect in some of the important hay-producing States of the Midwest, as well as in Oklahoma and some other Southern States. In California, however, an 11 percent reduction in hay acreage is in prospect, and slight to moderate reductions are in prospect in a number of the other Western States. If farmers carry out these intentions, the acreage of hay harvested would be below the average of the past 10 years in California and in most of the Southern States, but it would again be well above average in the West North Central region.

Table 5.- Hay: Acreage, yield, production, and supply per animal unit, United States, average 1942-46, annual 1947-51

Year	Acreage	Yield	Production	Carry-over May 1	Total supply	Roughage-consuming animal units fed annually 1/	Supply per animal unit
	Million acres	Tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Millions	Tons
Average							
1942-46	76.1	1.37	104.6	16.0	120.6	77.0	1.57
1947	75.5	1.36	102.8	16.0	118.8	69.6	1.71
1948	73.2	1.36	99.5	15.1	114.6	68.1	1.68
1949	73.0	1.36	99.5	15.1	114.6	68.4	1.68
1950 2/	75.7	1.41	106.8	14.9	121.7	70.[illegible]	1.72
1951	3/75.7	1.36	4/103.0	5/16.0	5/119.0	5/73.[illegible]	5/1.63

1/ Animal units fed during the feeding season beginning October. For weights see table 65, page 49, Feed Statistics, December 1950. 2/Preliminary. 3/ Indicated acreage for harvest. 4/ Production with 1945-49 yields per acre by States on the prospective hay acreage. 5/ Tentative estimates based on indications in March.

The total prospective acreage for harvest in 1951 is 75.7 million acres, which, with 1945-49 average yields per acre by States, would give a production of 103 million tons. This would be about 4 percent smaller than in 1950, when yields were above average, but it would be about 14 percent above the 1937-41 average. Disappearance of hay in the early part of the 1950-51 season was heavier than in the preceding year, but carry-over from the big 1950-51 crop probably will be a little larger than the 15 million tons carried over last year. These early indications point to a hay supply of 119 million tons, only a little below the big 1950-51 supply. After allowing for some further increase in the number of roughage-consuming livestock on farms, the hay supply per animal would again be well above the long-time average, although a little smaller than in the past four or five years.

Demand for Feed Expected to Continue Strong; Feed Grain Prices Nearly One-Third Higher Than A Year Ago

The demand for feed in the first half of the 1950-51 feeding season has been much greater than in that period of the past two years, reflecting both an increase in prices of livestock and livestock products and expanding livestock production. In spite of another big supply of feed concentrates this year, the mid-March index of prices of feed grains was nearly a third higher than a year ago, and in February and March was at the highest level since September 1948. Prices of byproduct feeds also have increased during the past year, although increases in most of these feeds have been less pronounced than for feed grains. In March prices of wheat millfeeds were 15 to 20 percent higher than a year earlier. The index of oilseed meal prices was 25 percent higher, while animal protein feeds were up about 5 percent.

The index of prices of livestock and livestock products was 33 percent higher in March this year than last, a greater increase than occurred in the cost of feeds generally. The average price received by farmers for hogs in March was 32 percent higher than a year earlier, slightly less than the increase in the price of corn. The United States average hog-corn price ratio in March, of 13.2, was about the same as the 1930-49 average for the month, although slightly below that of a year ago. The index of prices of dairy products was up about 15 percent, which was about in line with the rise in the price of dairy feeds. Egg prices have increased about 38 percent during the past year, compared with an increase of only 18 percent in the average cost of poultry ration. The egg-feed price ratio in March was more favorable to poultry producers than a year ago, and slightly above the average of the past 10 years for March. The price of grain-fattened cattle is again high this year in relation to the price of corn and other feed. High returns from cattle feeding have been a factor contributing to the increasing demand for corn and other feeds. A record number of cattle were on grain feed at the beginning of 1951, and feeding operations will continue at a high level during 1951. Prices of lambs and wool have increased much more than feed grains during the past year.

Demand for feed is expected to continue strong this year and in the 1951-52 feeding year. Prices of all feed grains have risen above the price support level in recent months, and probably will remain above these supports in 1951-52, unless the 1951 growing season should be unusually favorable. Feed grain prices, however, are still below the legal minimum levels at which ceilings can be imposed. In mid-March the price of corn was 8 percent below, oats, 6 percent below, barley, 11 percent below, and sorghum grains, 28 percent below such levels. With a continued strong demand for feed expected for this year, production prospects for 1951 feed crops will be important in determining the level of feed prices. Prospects for big 1951 crops of feed grains would delay the time at which feed grain prices would reach the legal minimum levels at which ceilings on prices could be imposed under present law.

In recent weeks prices of feed grains and many of the byproduct feeds have weakened from the peak levels reached in late February or early March. The price of No. 3 Yellow corn at Chicago in late March was about 10 cents per bushel lower than the high point reached in late February. Oats and barley prices also have receded somewhat from the high levels reached during February. The price of soybean meal, which was quoted at the ceiling level in late February, had declined about 10 dollars per ton from that level by late March. In March, however, the price of soybean meal at Chicago averaged close to the price of cottonseed meal at Memphis, whereas last fall cottonseed meal was higher than soybean meal. Prices of tankage, meat scraps, and fish meal have been comparatively stable in recent months, and have advanced much less during the past year than prices of most other feeds.

Price Supports on 1951 Feed Grains

Price supports have been announced on the 1951 feed grain crops at about the same percentage of the parity prices as in 1950. The price support for 1951 corn will be set at 90 percent of parity at the beginning of the marketing season (October 1), with an assured minimum national average support of $1.54 a bushel. If the corn parity price is higher at the beginning of the 1951 marketing season, the support will be increased to reflect 90 percent of parity at that time. Since there will be no corn acreage allotments and no designation of a commercial corn area this year, the price support for corn of 90 percent of parity will apply nationally. In 1950, when acreage allotments were in effect in the commercial area, the 90 percent support, which averaged $1.47 per bushel for the country, was available only in that area, and the support was 75 percent of that rate in the non-commercial area. Loans and purchase agreements will be available to farmers from the time of harvest through May 1952, and will mature on July 31, 1952, unless a change is required to meet emergency conditions.

The 1951 support price for oats was set at 75 percent of the parity price as of January 15, 1951, and will reflect a national average of 72 cents a bushel, as compared with 71 cents for the 1950 crop. The national average loan rate on barley is $1.11 per bushel, also 75 percent of parity, while the average support for sorghum grains is $1.88 per cwt., 65 percent of parity. The average dollars and cents supports for the 1951 crops for these three grains are fixed and, unlike the dollars and cents support for corn, will not be changed to reflect any possible increase in the parity price between now and the beginning of the marketing season.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Market Receipts of Corn Heavy in Recent Months, Reflecting A Strong Market Demand

Receipts of corn at primary markets during January-March were much larger than in this quarter of 1950 and about 42 percent above the 1939-48 average for the quarter. Although receipts of corn were comparatively light early in the current marketing year, reflecting the lateness of the harvest of the 1950 crop, for the first six months (October-March), they totaled 240 million bushels. This was nearly 19 percent more than in that period a year earlier and the largest on record for the six months. The heavy receipts of corn this year reflect the strong market demand for corn. Corn prices have advanced above the support level, thereby drawing old corn out of the loan stocks and resulting in increased sales of CCC corn to domestic buyers.

Domestic processors of corn have been processing more corn this year than in the past two years, and operations are running at near the high wartime level. During October-February the wet-milling industry processed about 58.6 million bushels of corn, 18 percent more than in that period of the preceding year. During October-January 19.5 million bushels of corn were used in making alcohol and distilled spirits, more than double the quantity used in the same period of 1949-50. Exports of corn, however, which totaled 37.5 million bushels during the first four months of the marketing year were 11.6 million bushels less than in that period of 1949-50.

Table 6.- Receipts of feed grains at primary markets, by months, average 1939-48, and July 1949-March 1951

Month	Corn 1/			Oats 1/			Barley 2/		
	Average 1939-48	1949-50	1950-51	Average 1939-48	1949-50	1950-51	Average 1939-48	1949-50	1950-51
	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
July	21,812	19,683	26,697	11,613	33,804	8,991	7,859	24,843	5,894
August	17,105	22,064	33,368	24,300	24,824	17,122	20,086	24,940	16,968
September	20,703	23,967	22,965	18,558	9,338	11,254	17,432	14,954	21,441
October	24,582	43,927	24,340	12,884	5,954	8,976	13,397	11,003	13,503
November	32,486	58,979	51,873	8,615	5,460	7,211	10,338	9,015	12,581
December	30,825	33,368	42,716	8,710	7,163	7,370	9,503	6,820	9,821
January	33,081	25,182	54,949	9,375	6,989	6,811	7,971	4,351	8,909
February	27,379	17,006	33,207	7,067	4,670	4,267	5,903	5,806	6,663
March	24,610	23,355	32,941	8,801	7,537	5,574	6,971	6,738	3/8,300
April	22,523	19,624		8,228	8,041		7,153	5,627	
May	25,416	24,052		7,294	8,343		8,002	7,696	
June	23,609	26,626		7,609	7,313		9,101	7,217	

1/ Receipts at 12 primary markets: Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Duluth, St. Louis, Kansas City, Peoria, Omaha, Indianapolis, Sioux City, St. Joseph, and Wichita. 2/ Receipts at 4 primary markets: Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Chicago, and Duluth. 3/ Partly estimated.

The total sales of corn by farmers in 1950-51, including that delivered to CCC under the price support program, probably will be somewhat less than the heavy sales of the past two years, but practically all of the sales will move into regular market channels and very little will be delivered to CCC under the price support program. In 1948-49 sales of corn by farmers totaled 1,076 million bushels, about one-third of which was delivered to CCC. Sales from the 1949 crop were estimated at 5 million bushels. Through February this year about 67 million bushels of 1949 corn had been delivered to CCC. Not only are deliveries of 1950 corn to CCC expected to be very small, but market supplies are being supplemented by corn withdrawn from loan stocks and Government holdings for domestic use and export. Stocks of corn at terminal markets have increased materially during the past year. In mid-March they amounted to about 30 million bushels more than a year earlier and the largest on record at this season of the year.

Market receipts of oats from the 1950 crop so far this marketing season have been considerably smaller than a year earlier, in spite of the larger production in 1950. During July-March about 78 million bushels of oats were received at primary markets, or about one-fourth less than a year earlier. Barley receipts during July-March totaled about 105 million bushels, slightly smaller than in the preceding year. Receipts of barley, however, have dropped off less in recent months this year than in the same period of last year and probably will total a little larger in the last half of the 1950-51 marketing year (January-June) than in the same period of 1949-50.

A Much Smaller Volume of Feed Grains Going Under Price Support This Year

The total quantity of feed grains placed under Government loan and purchase agreement from the 1950 crops through February, 1951, amounted to only about 4 million tons compared with 11.3 million tons in the same period of 1949-50. Through February farmers had placed only about 46 million bushels of 1950 corn under price support compared with 269 million bushels in the same period of last year. Farmers have until May 31 to place their 1950 corn under price support, and the loans will become due on July 31, 1951, or earlier on demand of the CCC. In recent months corn prices have been well above the loan level, which accounts for the much smaller quantity of corn going under price support this year. It now appears likely that practically all the 1950 corn placed under price support will be redeemed by farmers and very little will be delivered to the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Loans on 1950 oats, barley, and sorghum grains were available from time of harvest through January 1951. Farmers placed about 15 million bushels of oats under price support from the 1950 crop compared with 42 million bushels from the 1949 crop. The 31 million bushels of barley placed under price support from the 1950 crop were slightly smaller than a year earlier, and the 60 million bushels of sorghum grains were about one-fourth smaller.

Livestock Numbers Increased 4 Percent During 1950

The combined number of livestock and poultry on farms increased about 4 percent during 1950, largely as a result of an increase of 7 percent in the number of hogs and 5 percent in the number of cattle. The index of livestock and poultry numbers on January 1, combined on the basis of their economic importance, was 109 percent of the 1935-39 average, 6 percent above the recent low point reached in 1949, but 13 percent below the wartime peak reached on January 1, 1944. While the index of numbers of meat animals increased about 5 percent during 1950, the number of dairy cows remained about the same and the number of chickens on farms, excluding commercial broilers, decreased 3 percent. The number of workstock on farms January 1, 1951, was about 9 percent smaller than a year earlier, continuing the downtrend of the past 20 years.

With ample feed grain supplies available in 1950, farmers fed their livestock and poultry liberally through most of the year. The number of cattle grain-fed for market was well above average, and the 1950 pig crop was about 5 percent larger than in 1949. Dairy cows were fed a near-record quantity of grain and other concentrates per head during 1950, 13 percent more than the average of the past 10 years, and 40 percent more than in 1937-41.

Table 7.- Numbers of livestock on farms in the United States, January 1, average 1938-42, and annually 1943-51

Year	All cattle including milk cows	Milk cows	Hogs	All sheep	Horses and mules	Chickens 1/
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Average 1938-42	69,473	25,154	54,132	52,930	14,455	429,256
1943	81,204	27,138	73,881	55,150	13,231	542,047
1944	85,334	27,704	83,741	50,782	12,613	582,197
1945	85,573	27,770	59,331	46,520	11,950	516,497
1946	82,434	26,695	61,301	42,436	11,063	530,203
1947	81,207	26,098	56,921	37,818	10,021	474,441
1948	78,126	25,039	55,028	34,827	9,130	461,550
1949	78,298	24,416	57,128	31,654	8,246	448,676
1950	80,052	24,573	60,502	30,743	7,423	480,834
1951 2/	84,179	24,579	65,028	31,505	6,753	466,686

1/ Number on farms, not including commercial broilers.
2/ Preliminary.

Feeding has continued heavy in 1951. A record number of cattle was on grain feed January 1, 1951, -5 percent larger than a year earlier, -and cattle are being marketed at heavier weights than a year ago. The rate of feeding milk cows per head on February 1 was only slightly below the heavy rate on that date in 1950 and 12 percent above the 1940-49 average for that date. The total number of hogs on farms was 7 percent larger than a year earlier, and farmers are marketing their hogs a little heavier so far this year than in early 1950. The total number of chickens on farms January 1, 1951, was about 3 percent smaller than a year earlier. Poultry production for the entire calendar year, however, may be as large as in 1950, since this decrease in inventory may be offset by a prospective increase in the number of chickens and broilers raised during the year. The total number of grain-consuming animal units to be fed during the 1950-51 feeding season is estimated at 174 million, 2 percent more than in 1949-50.

Supplementary Regulation Issued For Adjusting Price Ceilings on Manufactured Feeds

Supplementary Regulation No. 7 to the General Ceiling Price Regulation was issued by the Office of Price Stabilization in late February, regulating price ceilings on manufactured feeds. Under this regulation a feed manufacturer may increase his price ceiling per ton for a manufactured feed, as determined under the General Ceiling Price Regulation, by the dollars and cents amount that the total value per ton of the ingredients in the manufactured feed exceeds the total value of the ingredients in the feed in the base period December 19, 1950 through January 25, 1951. The ceiling price on the manufactured feed may be rounded to the nearest 20 cents per ton. For a feed ingrdient which has a ceiling price, the feed manufacturer may use such ceiling price or the reasonable market value, whichever is lower.

Wholesalers and retailers may increase their ceiling price by the same amount in dollars and cents as the increase in the ceiling price of the supplier of the feed.

LONG-TERM TREND IN CORN PRODUCTION UPWARD

Corn acreage has been declining in this country since the near-record acreage of over 110 million acres was harvested in 1932. Following a long-term upward trend, 100 million acres of corn were harvested in the United States for the first time in 1909. From that time until 1933 the acreage harvested leveled off, averaging a little over 100 million acres for the 25 years.

During the past 20 years corn acreage has been declining. The acreage planted to corn has not exceeded 100 million acres since 1936, and has been below 90 million acres since 1945. Corn production, on the other hand, has been increasing. Crops of over 3 billion bushels, which were uncommon prior to World War II, have been harvested in 4 out of the last 5 years. These opposite trends reflect a fairly marked increase in yield per acre over the last 20 years. During the past five years corn yields in the United States have averaged 38 percent higher than in the

1920's and 28 percent higher than in the period 1937-41. If farmers carry out their March 1 plans, corn acreage in 1951 will be about one-sixth smaller than in 1920-29, but if the 1951 growing season is average, production this year will be about one-eighth larger. This would be in line with the experience of the past five years, when production in the United States averaged 17 percent greater than in the 1920's from an acreage about 15 percent smaller.

A major factor contributing to the increase in yield per acre during the past 15 years has been the marked increase in the use of hybrid seed, which is now used on over 75 percent of the total corn acreage. Other factors, however, have contributed to higher corn yields and expanding corn production. The quantity of fertilizer used in corn production has been much larger than before the war, and the use of tractors and power machinery for producing corn has increased markedly. During the past 15 years the downward trend in acreage in the South, where yields are below the national average, also has contributed to a higher national average yield per acre. The declining corn acreage also has been accompanied by a general withdrawal of lower-producing land from corn production. Weather has been generally favorable for corn production in four of the past five years. For the period as a whole the growing seasons have been much better than during the 1930's and have compared favorably with the 1920's.

The steady upward trend in the use of hybrid seed in this country is shown in table 8. In 1949 and 1950 over 77 percent of the total acreage was planted with hybrid seed. The slight drop in the percentage from 1949 to 1950 reflects the reduction in the acreage planted in the Corn Belt, where nearly all the corn is planted with hybrid seed, and an increase in the acreage in the South, where a little less than one-half of the crop is hybrid. The increase in the acreage planted to hybrids has been less pronounced in recent years, since they are now used nearly exclusively in the main producing area, and on about 36 percent of the corn acreage in the North Atlantic region. In recent years the use of hybrid seed has become more popular in the South as suitable varieties have been developed, and in 1950 about 43 percent of the corn in the southern States was planted to hybrid seed. The upward trend in the percentage of the corn crop produced from hybrid seed probably will continue, as the use of hybrids continues to expand in the South.

The increased use of commercial fertilizer in corn production also has contributed to higher yields per acre over the last 15 years. Farmers in this country are now using more than twice as much fertilizer in crop production than they did just before World War II. The corn crop has at least shared in this marked increase. An indication of the trend in the use of fertilizer in corn production is revealed by data on the total quantity of fertilizer used in the six Corn Belt States--Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Missouri. Farmers in these six States have used more than three times as much fertilizer in recent years as in the late 1930's.

Table 8 - Corn: Acreage, yield, and production, and factors contributing to increased production, 1929-51

Year	Corn crop - United States					Fertilizer used in Corn Belt States 1/	Tractors on farms, United States 2/
	Planted acreage	Yield per planted acre	Production	Planted with hybrid seed			
	1,000 acres	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 acres	Percent of total	1,000 tons	Thousands
1929	99,130	25.4	2,515,937	----	----	704	827
1930	103,915	20.0	2,080,130	----	----	715	920
1931	109,364	23.6	2,575,927	----	----	558	997
1932	113,024	25.9	2,930,352	----	----	331	1,022
1933	109,830	21.8	2,397,593	143	0.1	375	1,019
1934	100,563	14.4	1,448,920	372	.4	490	1,016
1935	99,974	23.0	2,299,363	1,140	1.1	596	1,048
1936	101,959	14.8	1,505,689	3,166	3.1	724	1,125
1937	97,174	27.2	2,642,978	7,632	7.9	729	1,230
1938	94,473	27.0	2,548,753	14,079	14.9	679	1,370
1939	91,639	28.2	2,580,985	20,618	22.5	683	1,445
1940	88,692	27.7	2,457,146	27,011	30.5	802	1,545
1941	86,837	30.5	2,651,889	34,134	39.3	913	1,675
1942	88,818	34.5	3,068,562	41,199	46.4	1,117	1,885
1943	94,341	31.4	2,965,980	49,428	52.4	1,299	2,100
1944	95,475	32.3	3,088,110	56,475	59.2	1,616	2,215
1945	89,727	32.1	2,880,933	57,752	64.4	1,919	2,422
1946	89,788	36.2	3,249,950	61,614	68.6	2,388	2,585
1947	86,108	27.7	2,383,970	62,051	72.1	2,585	2,800
1948	86,828	42.4	3,681,793	65,541	75.5	3,091	3,150
1949	88,192	38.3	3,379,436	3/68,481	77.6	4/3,087	4/3,500
1950	84,370	37.1	3,131,009	3/65,245	77.3	5/	4/3,825
1951	6/85,694	35.6	7/3,050,000				

1/ Total fertilizer used on farms in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, and Missouri. Compiled from reports of National Fertilizer Association. 2/ Estimates of Bureau of Agricultural Economics adjusted to numbers reported by the Bureau of the Census for census years. 3/ Unofficial revisions derived by applying percentage of corn acreage planted with hybrid seed by regions, published in July 1950, to all corn acreages planted by regions in 1949 and 1950, as reported in the Annual Crop Summary in December 1950. 4/ Preliminary. 5/ Data not yet available. 6/ Indicated by March intentions of farmers. 7/ Assumes 1945-49 average yields by States on prospective plantings.

Data are not available on the total quantity of fertilizer used annually for corn production during the past 15 or 20 years. Such data as have been compiled, however, indicate a marked increase in the quantity of commercial fertilizer going into corn production, as well as a larger percentage of the total used for all crops. In 1928 it was estimated that about 20 percent, or about 1.6 million tons of the total fertilizer used in this country was used on corn land. In 1942 the total tonnage used on corn was estimated at about 2.2 million tons, or about 22 percent of the total. It is estimated that in 1947 over 4 million tons of commercial fertilizer were used on corn, or about 25 percent of the total for all crops. This would mean an average rate of about 100 pounds per acre planted compared with only 39 pounds in 1938. In addition to this increase in the total quantity of fertilizer used, there has been an increase in the plant food content of fertilizer, resulting in an even greater increase in the amount of plant food supplied than indicated by these tonnage figures.

The increase in the number of tractors in the United States is shown in table 8 to indicate the trend in the use of power equipment in this country. The number of tractors used in the Corn Belt has more than doubled in the last 10 years. This increase has been accompanied by an increase in the use of larger units of equipment for seedbed preparation, planting, cultivating, and harvesting corn. While the effect of mechanization on corn yields cannot be readily determined, it has made possible increased corn production with reduced labor requirements at a time when our labor supply has been heavily taxed. It also has permitted an increased proportion of our feed grain supply to go into the production of livestock and livestock products for food, and a relatively smaller part to go into the maintenance of horses and mules for farm power. It also has made possible more rapid and efficient seedbed preparation, planting, tillage, and harvesting of corn in wet seasons or other years when this has been necessary for proper timing of these operations.

It is estimated that over three-fourths of the corn acreage is now prepared for planting by tractor power compared with only about one-half in 1939. Well over one-half of the corn crop is now picked with mechanical pickers, compared with only 12 percent in 1938. In the Corn Belt about three-fourths of the corn is harvested with mechanical pickers.

The above trends are discussed here to indicate some of the general factors which have contributed to the increased yields and production of corn in this country over the past several years, with smaller acreage and reduced manpower. These factors will continue to be important in years to come in maintaining corn yields and production above the long-time average. It must not be overlooked, however, that weather in four of the last five years has been favorable to corn production, which also has contributed to higher yields as compared with some past periods. The effect of weather on yield per acre is especially pronounced when comparing yields in the mid-30's with those of the past 3 years.

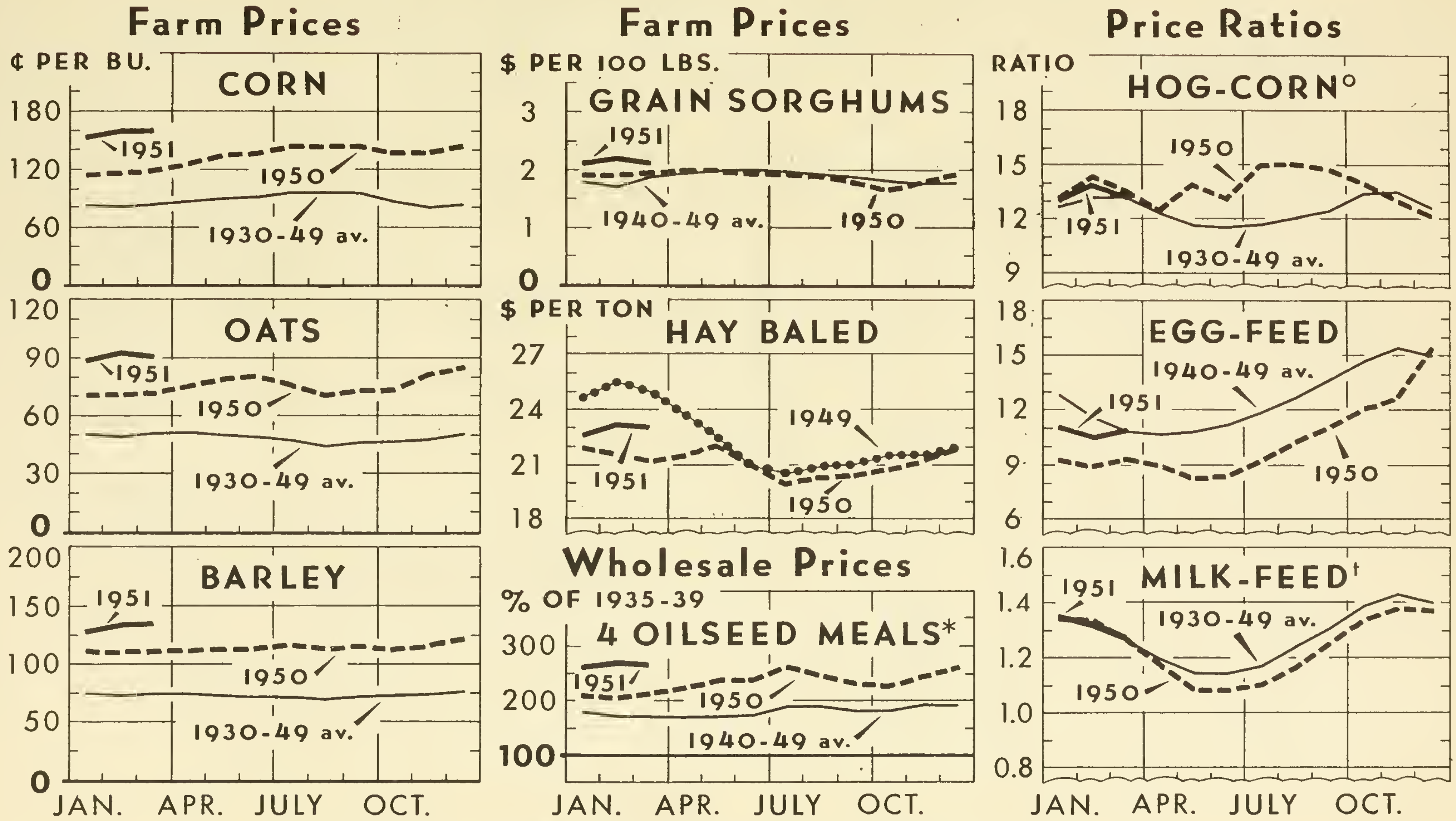
Trends in the acreage planted to corn in the various regions have had some influence on the increases in the United States average yield. The acreage planted to corn in the Southern States declined nearly 25 percent from 1937-41 to the postwar period 1946-50, while acreage in the higher yielding North Central region increased 8 percent. Furthermore, the general downward trend in the national corn acreage has been accompanied by the withdrawal of lower-producing land from corn production, as well as to some shifts to higher-producing areas within States.

Table 9.- Production and stocks of specified byproduct feeds, February 1951 with comparisons

Item	1949-50	1950-51	1950	1950-51		
	Oct.-Feb.	Oct.-Feb.	February	December	January	February
	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons
Production						
Cottonseed cake and meal	1,523.1	1,065.2	235.1	193.6	198.1	145.0
Soybean cake and meal	1,992.4	2,684.0	363.2	576.0	589.8	528.8
Linseed cake and meal	290.8	306.7	51.7	67.7	53.7	56.5
Peanut cake and meal	85.4	58.7	12.3	12.2	14.0	15.1
Copra cake and meal	64.4	60.3	8.8	10.9	11.5	10.9
Total	3,956.1	4,174.9	671.1	860.4	867.1	756.3
Corn gluten feed and meal	360.3	425.1	68.5	78.8	93.3	81.1
Brewers' dried grains	79.4	82.8	14.9	16.2	17.7	16.2
Distillers' dried grains	117.9	311.7	19.9	65.5	65.2	57.4
Wheat millfeeds	1,931.9	1,955.7	356.0	390.0	441.8	372.0
Rice millfeeds	110.3	100.1	11.8	15.2	16.7	14.9
Alfalfa meal	268.5	250.2	29.0	35.0	36.0	31.0
Fish cake and meal	73.5	73.3	2.7	17.0	7.5	3.3
Dry or powdered skim milk	3.3	1.8	.8	.4	.4	.4
Stocks end of period						
Cottonseed cake and meal	196.4	165.3	196.4	190.9	199.1	165.3
Soybean cake and meal	69.7	104.2	69.7	72.4	92.6	104.2
Linseed cake and meal	13.3	21.3	13.3	40.6	22.1	21.3
Peanut cake and meal	9.2	7.3	9.2	7.1	6.4	7.3
Copra cake and meal	4.8	7.1	4.8	11.9	10.3	7.1
Total	293.4	305.2	293.4	322.9	330.5	305.2
Brewers' dried grains	4.1	3.9	4.1	3.9	3.4	3.9
Distillers' dried grains	3.0	55.0	3.0	58.0	57.3	55.0
Alfalfa meal	97.1	92.1	97.1	166.6	130.9	92.1

Compiled as follows: Wheat millfeeds, cottonseed, soybean, linseed, and copra cakes and meals, Bureau of the Census; gluten feed and meal, brewers' and distillers' dried grains, rice millfeeds, and alfalfa meal, Production and Marketing Administration; fish cake and meal from Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

FEED PRICES AND RATIOS



*SOYBEAN, COTTONSEED, LINSEED, AND PEANUT CAKES AND MEALS

° BASED ON PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

† MILK-FEED PRICE RATIO INCLUDES PRODUCTION PAYMENTS FROM OCTOBER 1943 THROUGH JUNE 1946

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 48022-HX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

BAE-FdS-124-4/51-4500
Permit No. 1001

Penalty for private use to avoid
payment of postage $300

Table 10.- Feed grains: Planted acreage, yield, and production, United States, 1941-51

Year	Corn 1/			Oats			Barley		
	Planted acreage	Yield per planted acre	Production	Planted acreage	Yield per planted acre	Production	Planted acreage	Yield per planted acre	Production
	Million acres	Bushels	Million bushels	Million acres	Bushels	Million bushels	Million acres	Bushels	Million bushels
1941	86.8	30.5	2,652	41.8	28.3	1,183	15.9	22.9	363
1942	88.8	34.5	3,069	43.0	31.2	1,343	19.7	21.8	429
1943	94.3	31.4	2,966	43.5	26.2	1,140	17.5	18.5	323
1944	95.5	32.3	3,088	43.8	26.2	1,149	14.3	19.3	276
1945	89.7	32.1	2,881	45.9	33.5	1,536	11.7	22.8	267
1946	89.8	36.2	3,250	46.5	32.2	1,498	11.5	22.8	262
1947	86.1	27.7	2,384	42.3	28.4	1,199	12.1	23.2	281
1948	86.8	42.4	3,682	44.5	33.5	1,493	13.2	23.9	316
1949	88.2	38.3	3,379	44.4	30.0	1,329	11.2	21.2	237
1950	84.4	37.1	3,131	46.6	31.4	1,465	13.2	22.8	302
1951 2/	85.7	35.6	3,050	44.2	31.8	1,404	11.4	22.8	260

1/ For all purposes.

2/ Indicated 1951 acreage from March 1 intentions of farmers. Indicated 1951 production computed on the basis of the prospective plantings, assuming yields per planted acre by States equal to the 1945-49 average.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
APR 26 1951
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD
LIBRARY